



DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

Volume 2, Issue 6

March 2002

Report from the Program Manager

February was another great month for the DFIRS program. An additional 9% gain in participation was realized with Delaware's total participation rate now equaling 46%.

Total participation breakdown by county is:

- New Castle County 18%
- Kent County 43%
- Sussex County 39%

The DFIRS program is well ahead of previously published goals and will reach the 50% participation goal by the end of March 2002.

If your department is not participating in the DFIRS program please contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for assistance.

New Castle County Incident Number

Due to the fact that New Castle County's incident number is longer than the provided seven (7) character long incident number field, please place the **case number** in the incident number field. For example, case number F0002008286 should be entered as incident 008286. If you have any questions regarding this issue please contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for further clarification.

Coding Issues

From last month's newsletter we learned that incident type is the actual situation that emergency personnel **found** on the scene when they arrived.

The three-digit incident type codes are organized into series, as follows:

Series Heading

100 Fire

200 Overpressure, Ruptures, Explosion, Overheat (no ensuing fire)

300 Rescue & Emergency Medical Service

400 Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)

500 Service Calls

600 Good Intent Calls

700 False Alarms & False Calls

800 Severe Weather & Natural Disasters

900 Other Type of Incidents

When coding incident reports it is good practice not to utilize the main series heading numbers for a classification. Therefore, if it is at all possible **do not** code any incident with codes 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, or 900.

Frequently Miscoded Incidents

A frequently miscoded incident is a false scare due to smoke detectors tripping. If a detector activates and there is no fire Incident Code 744 Detector activation, no fire – unintentional should be utilized as the incident type. This incident occurs as a result of a proper system response to environmental stimuli such as smoke or high heat conditions. Included is testing the sprinkler system without fire department notifications.

Frequently Asked User Questions

A frequently asked question is, ***"When does the Civilian Fire Casualty (Module 4) get filled out?"***

Answer:

The Civilian Fire Casualty Module should be completed only for fire casualties. A **fire casualty** is a person who is injured or killed as a result of a fire, and includes injuries or deaths from natural or accidental causes sustained while involved in the activities of fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of fire. Within the Civilian Fire Casualty Module, there are only four required fields. Fires include incident types 100-199.

Congratulations!

The following departments are active

USFA UPDATE: (Released February 27, 2002)
NEW FIRE GRANT PROGRAM RULES PUBLISHED THIS WEEK

WASHINGTON - The Federal Emergency Management Agency's United States Fire Administration has published in the Federal Register the interim final rule covering the \$360 million 2002 Assistance to Firefighter's Grant Program designed to improve the safety and health of the nation's fire service and the communities they serve.

This year's program features an online application process, which provides extensive help screens and supplemental information.

Who is eligible?

Fire departments located in the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are eligible. A fire department is defined as an agency or organization that has a formally recognized arrangement with a state, local or tribal authority (city, county, parish, fire district, township, town or other governing body) to provide fire suppression, fire prevention and rescue services to a population within a fixed geographical area.

What will be funded?

Fire departments can apply for eligible activities in one of four different programs:

1. Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety (eligible activities include: Training, Wellness and Fitness, Firefighting Equipment, and Personal Protective Equipment).
2. Fire Prevention (eligible activities include: Public Education, Public Awareness, Code Enforcement, and Arson Prevention).
3. Emergency Medical Services (eligible activities include: Training and Equipment).
4. Firefighting Vehicles.

When will applications be accepted?

The application period will run from March 1 through April 1, 2002. Evaluation panels will review applications in April and May. Grants awards begin in May and continue until all funds are awarded. The rule and the application will be available online at the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) web site at: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants> no later than March 1, 2002.

For more information on the grant program, or problems with the application process, visit the website, call the toll-free information line at (866) 274-0960 or send e-mail to usfagrants@fema.gov

electronic DFIRS participants:

1. Indian River Volunteer Fire Co
2. Lewes Fire Department Inc
3. Bethany Beach Fire Co
4. Little Creek Volunteer Fire Co
5. Elsmere Fire Co #1 Inc
6. Citizen's Hose Co #1 Inc
7. Volunteer Hose Co
8. Dover Robbins Hose Co #1 Inc
9. Cheswold Volunteer Fire Co
10. Carlisle Fire Co Inc
11. Dagsboro Fire Co
12. Frankford Volunteer Fire Co
13. Selbyville Volunteer Fire Co
14. Seaford Volunteer Fire Dept Inc
15. Roxana Volunteer Fire Co
16. Farmington Fire Co
17. Clayton Fire Co #1 Inc
18. Felton Community Fire Co
19. Wilmington Fire Dept
20. Greenwood Volunteer Fire Co
21. Camden-Wyoming Fire Co Inc
22. Magnolia Volunteer Fire Co Inc
23. Bowers Fire Co
- 24. Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder Co**
- 25. Laurel Fire Dept Inc**
- 26. Millville Volunteer Fire Co**
- 27. Leipsic Volunteer Fire Co**
- 28. Five Points Fire Co**

Departments in bold indicate participation since last published newsletter.

For more information regarding the Delaware Fire